***Listing of All Claims Including Current Amendments***

1-24 (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A method for reducing energy deficit in a mammal with an energy deficiency due to hepatic dysfunction, renal dysfunction, or digestive tract disease, comprising the step of enterically administering to the mammal an energy promoting effective amount of a composition having less than 3% fat comprising an effective proportion of components;

wherein the composition comprises a protein component comprising whey powder ~~and lactase in the following approximate effective proportions: between about 95% and less than 100 % by weight of whey powder, and between about 1% to about 5 % by weight of lactase~~.

26. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises between about 2% to about 2.5% fat by weight.

27. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a nutrient component further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of vitamin, mineral, trace mineral, antioxidant, amino acid and combinations thereof.

28. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a nutrient component further comprising liquid vitamin.

29. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a nutrient component comprising at least one vitamin selected from the group consisting of vitamin A, vitamin B-1, vitamin B-2, vitamin B-3, vitamin B-6, vitamin B-12, vitamin C, vitamin D-3, vitamin E, vitamin K, biotin, choline, folic acid, and combinations thereof.

30. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a nutrient component comprising at least one antioxidant selected from the group consisting of CoQ10, pantothenic acid, DMG, grape seed extract, bioflavinoid, inositol, PABA, citrus bioflavonoid, pyctogen, and combinations thereof.

31. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a feed component further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of alfalfa, oats, and combinations thereof.

32. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition is in an oral liquid dosage form, or a powder form.

33. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein said mammal is a human, horse, dog, cow, pig, goat, or sheep.

34. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a nutrient component comprising at least one mineral selected from the group consisting of calcium, magnesium, potassium, boron, molybdenum, vanadium and combinations thereof.

35. (original) The method of claim 34 wherein the mineral is in amino acid chelate form.

36. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a nutrient component comprising at least one trace mineral selected from the group consisting of iron, copper, zinc, manganese, chromium, iodine, selenium, and combinations thereof.

37. (original) The method of claim 36 wherein the mineral is in amino acid chelate form.

38. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of whey powder, lactase, and combinations thereof.

39. (cancelled)

40. (original) The method of claim 38 wherein the whey powder is smaller than about 45 mesh.

41. (original) The method of claim 38 wherein the composition further comprises at least one monosaccharide.

42. (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the monosaccharide is selected from the group consisting of glucose, galactose, fructose, and combinations thereof.

43. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a nutrient component comprising at least one amino acid selected from the group consisting of alanine, arginine, aspartic acid, cystine, glutamic acid, proline, glycine, histidine, hydroxyproline, isolcucine, leucine, lysine, methionine, phenylalanine, serine, threonine, tryptophan, tyrosine, valine, and combinations thereof.

44. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises a functional food component further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of glucosamine, salt, amino acid, yeast, fermentation extract, and combinations thereof.

45. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein the glucosamine is a chemical selected from the group consisting of glucosamine sulphate, glucosamine sulfate 2KCL, glucosamine sulfate NaCl, glucosamine hydrochloride, N-acetylglucosamine, Poly-Nag. glucosamine, and combinations thereof.

46. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein the salt is sodium chloride.

47. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein the amino acid is selected from the group consisting of L-glutamine, L-arginine, carnitine, and combinations of these.

48. (original) The method of claim 44 wherein the fermentation extract comprises at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of prebiotic, probiotic, synbiotic, and combinations thereof.

49. (cancelled)

50. (currently amended) A method for providing critical care to a mammal with an energy deficiency due to hepatic dysfunction, renal dysfunction, or digestive tract disease, by reducing the energy deficiency in the mammal comprising the step of administering to the mammal a diet consisting of a critical care feeding program that consists of an energy promoting effective amount of a composition having less than 3% fat comprising an effective proportion of components and a protein component comprising whey powder.

51. (cancelled)

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the composition comprises a protein component comprising whey powder and lactase in the following ap-

proximate effective proportions: between about 95% and less than 100 % by weight of whey powder, and between about 1% to about 5 % by weight of lactase.

51. (new) The method of claim 25 wherein the protein component comprises whey powder and lactase in the following approximate effective proportions: between about 95% and less than 100 % by weight of whey powder, and between about 1% to about 5 % by weight of lactase.